

1 CHAIRPERSON JAMES: That's okay.

2 Jim, and, Jim, how do you pronounce your
3 last name?

4 MR. FARBER: It's Farber.

5 CHAIRPERSON JAMES: Farber. That's a B.
6 Okay. Thank you.

7 MR. FARBER: Yes. Madame Chairman,
8 Commissioners, my name is James Farber, and I'm a
9 casino game supervisor at Harrah's Casino in Atlantic
10 City.

11 I appreciate the chance to make known my
12 feelings on how the opportunities presented by the
13 casino business has profoundly changed my life.

14 I was born into a lower middle class
15 family in a small town in northeastern Pennsylvania.
16 Unable to afford a college education, I took the only
17 employment that I could find and went to work in a
18 local factory. Working conditions were less than
19 ideal. I worked in an underground room with no
20 windows, no air conditioning, and poor ventilation.
21 The heat in the room regularly exceeded 90 degrees and
22 I had to breathe chemicals all day long.

1 After enduring these conditions for two
2 years, I heard of the gaming industry and the
3 wonderful opportunities it presented. I packed
4 everything I owned, withdrew my \$500 life savings, and
5 moved to Atlantic City.

6 I was extremely excited because I was
7 already hired to work in a new casino hotel that was
8 being built. The casino provided for my training,
9 education, and the licensing that was required for me
10 to begin my career.

11 In 1981, I received my first casino
12 paycheck and was astonished to see that I was making
13 more money than my father.

14 In 1984, I joined the Harrah's
15 organization and was promoted to casino supervisor.
16 As the gaming industry grew, so did its management
17 style. The industry continued to take stock in me by
18 paying and providing for my business education through
19 numerous workshops, seminars, and a mentoring program.

20 My life was further enhanced by my
21 purchasing power. I live in a nice house. I drive a
22 new car. I own a computer. I vacation abroad and

1 possess many other luxuries that create a comfortable
2 life style.

3 While these things are enjoyable, they're
4 merely incidental. To me the most valuable way in
5 which the gaming industry has enhanced my life is in
6 the sense of pride and self-esteem it has given to me.
7 It has allowed me to work with people from all walks
8 of life and from all around the world. It has taught
9 me the value of diversity and how to assimilate the
10 best of these cultures into myself.

11 The gaming industry has given me
12 encouragement, education, empowerment, and self-
13 esteem. For this I am indebted to the gaming
14 industry.

15 Thank you, again, for the opportunity to
16 express to you what a positive impact the gaming
17 industry has made in my life.

18 CHAIRPERSON JAMES: Thank you for being
19 here.

20 Joanna Franklin.

21 MS. FRANKLIN: Yes. Good afternoon.
22 Thank you for allowing me to testify.